

Rec'd

PTO

15 JUL 2004

542501

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/00659

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G01N 27/26, 27/447

US CL : 204/450

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 204/450-553, 600-650

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| X | US 6,277,258 B1 (Ivory et al) 21 August 2001 (21.08.2001), entire document. | 1-3, 5-7, 11-13, 15, 18-27, 29, 32-36, 38-48, and 52-54 (incl. 24' and 24'') |
| Y | | 4, 8-10, 14, 16, 17, 28, 30, 31, 37, 49-51, and 54 |
| Y | US 5,298,143 A (Ivory et al) 29 March 1994 (29.03.1994), Especially Abstract, Figures 16 and 20, Columns 8-10. | 4 |
| Y | Koegler, Wendy S. and Cornelius F. Ivory, J. Chromatogr. A. 229 (1996) 229-236. Especially Sections 2 and 4. | 8-10, 49-51 |
| Y | Li, S.F.Y. Capillary Electrophoresis Principles, Practice and Applications New York: Elsevier Science Publications, 1992. ISBN 0-444-89433-0 Especially Page 192. | 10 |
| Y | US 5,993,627 A (Anderson et al) 30 November 1999 (30.11.1999), Background section | 14, 28, and 37 |
| Y | US 5,759,369 A (Menchen et al), 2 June 1998 (02.06.1998) Especially Abstract; Column 12, lines 39-44; Column 24, line 50 - Column 25, line 11. | 16 and 30 |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | "T" | later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "X" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
| "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date | "Y" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "&" | document member of the same patent family |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | | |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | | |

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 July 2004 (16.07.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

04 AUG 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Nam Nguyen

Telephone No. (571) 272-1342

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US04/00659

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Y | US 5,019,232 A (Wilson et al) 28 May 1991 (28.05.1991), Especially Abstract; Column 5, line 65 - Column 6, line 10 | 17 and 31 |

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY